Fine on cigarette manufacturers for illegal import of waste paper

1405. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Customs department have imposed fine on cigarette manufacturers for illegal import of waste paper mixed with hazardous municipal waste;

(b) if so, the details in this regard with the names of cigarette manufacturers and fines imposed on each of them;

(c) whether recently a large number of containers have been confiscated at Visakhapatnam Port containing waste paper mixed with hazardous municipal waste; and

(d) if so, the action taken against importers of such items illegally?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The Customs Department has imposed fine/penalty on cigarette manufacturers for illegal import of waste paper mixed with hazardous municipal waste.

(b)

Sl. No.	Name of the manufacturers	Qty.	Place	Fine/Penalty imposed
1.	I.T.C. Ltd. Paper and Paper Board Division Secunderabad	153.82 M.Ts.	Tuticorin (Port)	Rs. 25,000/-
2.	-do-	247.274 M.Ts.	Visakha Patnam (Port)	Goods confiscated but redemption allowed on payment of fine of Rs. 3.5 lakhs. Penalty of Rs. 2,50,000/- imposed on company and Rs. 1,50,000/- on its employees.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Action has been initiated for confiscation of the goods and imposing fine and penalty.